

ELMER CLARENCE AND NANCY JANE JONES MAHONEY



Elmer Clarence Mahoney was born Sept. 13, 1866 in Coalville, Summit County, a son of Jeremiah H. and Ada Louisa Phippen Mahoney. He married Nancy Jane Jones on Jan. 9, 1888. Seven children born to them were Clarence Ray; Louris Vier; J. Rolla, Forest Erwin, Elmer Earnest, Elisha Rodney and Thelma. Elmer died July 8, 1934 in Center. Nancy Jane, who was born March 6, 1868 to Elisha and Sarah Ann Cummings Jones, died in Provo Nov. 18, 1944.

Elmer's father died in 1868 and his mother later married William Henry Walker. In about 1870 they moved to Heber. They lived here for some time and then moved up on the Provo River. Elmer and Jerry, his brother worked for different people in Kamas and at Moulton Ranch (Keetley). He hauled lumber out of the canyons east of Kamas with a four-horse team. While working at Moulton Ranch he met Nancy Jane Jones, who also worked there, and they were married. Elmer built a one-room house near his mother's place and they lived there until May, 1890, when they moved to the Ontario Drain Tunnel. While working here they saved their money and bought a farm at Center Creek, where they moved to in 1897.

Elmer and Nancy loved to dance, and this was their main social activity. They attended a dance in Center Ward just a month before Elmer died, walking to and from the dance hall, about a mile and a half.

He served as first counselor in the bishopric of the Center Ward for twenty-five years, first under Bishop William H. Harvey and then under Bishop Bennett Lindsay. He held this position at the time of his death.

People who knew Elmer Mahoney always

spoke highly of him. He was a man who kept his word whenever he made a bargain. One of his outstanding qualities was his promptness at meetings. He was late once—and turned around and went home.

Nancy Jane was born in a little two-room log house on the corner of what is now known as Third East and Center Street.

She made the habit of attending church regularly with her father who was crippled and needed her assistance. She also completed six grades of school in a rock school house where the First Ward Church now stands. In those days that was considered a good education, and so one summer she was allowed to teach a group of children near the Heber Grist Mill.

Her father died when she was just thirteen years old, leaving her mother with a large family to take care of, and so it was necessary for her to go out to find work to help her mother. She cooked and did housework at the William Moulton Ranch, The Henry Cluff Ranch, The Kimball Ranch, and for President William Cluff in Coalville.

She was married to Elmer by Judge Thomas H. Watson, in the same little house she was born in. They were later married in the Salt Lake Temple. They lived at the Walker Ranch on the Provo River until 1890, when they moved to the Ontario Drain Tunnel. This was her home until 1897, when they moved to the farm they had bought and paid for, situated about three and one half miles east of Heber, between Center Creek and Lake Creek. This was her home until 1934, when her husband died, and she moved to Heber.

During her life on the farm she was very active in the LDS Church. She was President of the YLMIA from 1905 until 1912. In 1914 she was named second counselor in the Relief Society and held this position until 1917 when she was made President of the Relief Society, a position which she held until 1934. She was also a Sunday School Teacher and Librarian and Treasurer in the MIA. All of these positions were held in the Center Ward.

After the death of her husband, she lived in Heber. During this time until her death she spent most of her time visiting with her children, and in working in the Salt Lake Temple.